

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously presented) Method of verifying the authenticity of a security document, the security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, an opacifying portion, and an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, the method including the steps of:

positioning the security document such that the light beam is transmitted through the first at least partially transparent portion and the patterned beam is projected onto a viewing surface;

verifying the presence of a patterned image by the impingement of the patterned beam on the viewing surface; and

folding the security document such that the patterned beam is caused to impinge upon the opacifying portion which thus acts as the viewing surface.

3. (Original) Method according to claim 2, wherein the opacifying portion of the security document is remote from the first at least partially transparent portion.

4. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 2, wherein the light beam source is a directional light beam source.

5. (Original) Method according to claim 4, wherein the light beam source is a point-of-sale light source device.

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6. (Original) Method according to claim 5, wherein the point-of-sale light source device is a laser or an LED based device.

7. (Original) Method according to claim 6, wherein the light beam source is a bar code scanner.

8. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 2, wherein the optical projection element acts to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design by diffraction of the light beam transmitted through the security document.

9. (Previously presented) Method of verifying the authenticity of a security document, the security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, a second at least partially transparent portion, and an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, the method including the steps of:

positioning the security document such that the light beam is transmitted through the first at least partially transparent portion and the patterned beam is projected onto a viewing surface;

verifying the presence of a patterned image by the impingement of the patterned beam on the viewing surface; and

folding the security document such that part only of the light beam from the light beam source passes firstly through the second at least partially transparent portion before being transmitted through said first at least partially transparent portion, said second at least partially transparent portion thus acting as a pseudo point light source.

10. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 2, wherein the security document includes an optical image or device, applied to the opacifying portion, which interacts with the patterned beam impinging on the opacifying portion to create a visual security effect, the method further including the step of:

verifying the presence of the visual security effect.

11. (Original) Method according to claim 10, wherein optical image or device is a printed image substantially corresponding to or complementing the patterned image projected onto the viewing surface.

12. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 10, wherein the optical image or device is a reflective foil OVD or other like device.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) Security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through the first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, and an opacifying portion for impingement of the patterned beam thereupon by folding of the security document.

15. (Original) Security document according to claim 14, wherein the opacifying portion and the first at least partially transparent portion are remote from each other.

16. (Previously presented) Security document according to claim 14, wherein the optical projection element acts to generate the patterned beam by diffraction of the light beam passing through the security document.

17. (Currently amended) Security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through the first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, an at least partially transparent substrate having first and second opposing faces, and an opacifying layer applied to at least one of the faces, the first at least partially transparent portion resulting from an uncoated area on the at least one surface, the opacifying layer forming an opacifying portion for impingement of a patterned beam thereon by folding the security document.

18. (Currently amended) Security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through the first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, and the security document being foldable such that a second at least partially transparent portion is placed between the light beam and the optical projection element for transmitting part only of the light beam from the light beam source, the second at least partially transparent portion thus acting as a pseudo point light source.

19. (Previously presented) Security document according to claim 14, wherein the security document includes an optical image or device, applied to the opacifying portion, which

interacts with the patterned beam impinging on the opacifying portion to create a visual security effect.

20. (Currently amended) Method of verifying the authenticity of a security document, the security document including a first at least partially transparent portion and an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, the method including the steps of:

~~positioning the security document such that the light beam is transmitted through the first at least partially transparent portion and the patterned beam is projected onto a viewing surface;~~

~~verifying the presence of a patterned image by the impingement of the patterned beam on the viewing surface;~~

forming an at least partially transparent substrate having first and second opposing surfaces;

coating at least one face of the substrate ~~within~~ with an opacifying layer, the opacifying layer being applied to form a viewing surface on the security document and to leave a first uncoated area on the at least one face;

conveying the optical projection element into position over the first uncoated area;
[[and]]

transferring the optical projection element onto the substrate[[.]];

folding the security document such that the light beam is transmitted through the first at least partially transparent portion and the patterned beam is projected onto the viewing surface;
and

verifying the presence of a patterned image by the impingement of the patterned beam on the viewing surface.

21. (Original) Method according to claim 20, wherein the optical projection element is conveyed into position over the first uncoated area by and on a transfer foil.

22. (Currently amended) Method according to claim [[20]] 21, wherein the optical projection element is transferred from the foil onto the substrate by hot stamping.

23. (Original) Method according to any one of claims 20 to 22, wherein at least one optically variable device is conveyed into position over the first uncoated area and transferred onto the substrate together with the optical projection element.

24. (Original) Method according to claim 20, wherein the optical projection element may be transferred onto or into the substrate by embossing.

25. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 20, wherein the opacifying layer is applied to also leave a second uncoated area on the at least one face, the second uncoated area acting as a pseudo point light source when a light beam passes through the security document in the second uncoated area.

26. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 20, and further including the step of:

applying an optical image or device to an opacifying portion of said opacifying layer.

27. (Original) Method according to claim 26, wherein the optical image or device is applied to the opacifying portion by printing.

28. (Original) Method according to claim 26, wherein the optical image or device is a reflective foil OVD or like device.

29-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) Method of verifying the authenticity of a security document, the security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, and an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, the light beam source producing substantially non-collimated light, the method involving the steps of:

positioning the security document so as to enable a user to look at the light beam source through the first at least partially transparent portion, and verifying the presence of an image corresponding to the patterned beam in the user's field of vision; and

placing a screen having a window in the security document between the light beam source and the optical projection element [[,]] by folding the security document such that the light beam from the light beam source passing through the window is substantially collimated light, the screen including an opacifying portion of the security document.

35. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 34, wherein the window includes a second at least partially transparent portion of the security document.

36. (Original) Method according to claim 35, wherein the first and second at least partially transparent portions are remote from each other in order to enable the window to be conveniently placed between the light beam source and the optical projection element.

37. (Previously presented) Security document including a first at least partially transparent portion, an optical projection element within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion, the optical projection element acting to transform a light beam passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion into a patterned beam of selected design, and a second at least partially transparent portion located remotely from the first at least partially transparent portion, the security document being foldable such that the second at least partially transparent portion is able to be placed between the light beam source and the optical projection element in order that the light beam from the light beam source passing through the second at least partially transparent portion is substantially collimated light.